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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A substantially purified nucleic acid encoding a human Borna disease virus (BDV) p40 polypeptide consisting ~~essentially~~ of an amino acid residue sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, MPPKRRLVDDADAMEDQD (SEQ ID NO:39), MEDQDDLYEPPASLPKLP (SEQ ID NO:40) and ELSGEISAIMRMIGVTGLN (SEQ ID NO:41).

13. (previously presented) The nucleic acid according to claim 12 wherein the nucleic acid consists of a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:14 and encodes the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:28.

14. (previously presented) The nucleic acid according to claim 12 wherein the nucleic acid consists of a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:15 and encodes the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:29.

15. (previously presented) The nucleic acid according to claim 12 wherein the nucleic acid consists of a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:16 and encodes the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:30.

Claims 16-27 (canceled)

28. (original) A vector containing a nucleic acid of claim 12.

29. (original) The vector according to claim 28 wherein the vector is an expression vector and the nucleic acid is operably

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linked to a promoter.

30. (original) The vector according to claim 29 wherein the nucleic acid consists of a nucleotide sequence of claims 13, 14 or 15.

Claims 31-33 (canceled)

34. (currently amended) A cell in vitro transformed with the expression vector of claims ~~20, 23, 26, 29 or 32~~.

Claims 35-97 (canceled)